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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/753,714	01/04/2001	Gary S. Keorkunian	109246.00103	2653

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EXAMINER

KANG, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/753,714

Applicant(s)

KEORKUNIAN

Examiner

Paul H. Kang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

- a. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
- b. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
- c. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
- d. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

4. ***Claim) 1-4 & 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel et al. (US Patent No. 2002/0004900 and Patel hereinafter) in view of Lanzy et al., (US Patent No. 6,092,198).***

5. As per claim(s) 1 Patel discloses a server for establishing a first connection to the user and a second connection to the provider to access the content, (See Paragraph 0010); and a database for maintaining accounting information for the user and for the provider, (See Paragraph 0032-0033); wherein the *user* communicates with the provider over the second connection to retrieve the content to be accessed by the user without disclosing identifying information about the user to the provider, (See Paragraph 0010-0012).

However, Patel does not explicitly teach a system wherein the server resides between the provider and the user thereby able to establish a communication link to the remote provider and retrieve, anonymously, user requested data. In the same field of endeavor of anonymous file retrieval, Lanzy teaches a system and method for anonymous file transfer wherein a server resides between an application server and a user to anonymously retrieve data for the client (see Lanzy, Fig. 1 and col. 2, lines 20-40.).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the server configuration as taught by Lanzy, into the system of Patel, for the purpose of incorporating in one server anonymous service as well as other traditional server services. Inventions of both Patel and Lanzy solve the same problem of anonymous data retrieval.

6. As per claim(s) 2 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1 above and furthermore discloses the server retrieves the content from the provider and stores the content in a cache (i.e., cache memory) for delivery to the user, (See Patel, Paragraph 0026).

7. As per claim(s) 3 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-2 above and furthermore discloses the content comprises a link to further content, the server delivers the content to the user while reformatting the link to prevent the user from following the link to the further content; wherein restricting minors from accessing certain sites is interpreted as preventing user from following a link further to a restricted site, (See Patel, Paragraph 0034).

8. As per claim(s) 4 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-3 above and furthermore discloses the server reformats the link to the further content by replacing the link to the further content with a modified link for accessing the further content through the server; wherein participating in an auction with an authentication certificate, (See Patel, Paragraph 0034-0035).

9. As per claim(s) 6 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-5 above and furthermore discloses the server debits a fulfilled request from the user for the content from an account maintained for the user in the database without association to the provider or content requested, (See Patel, Paragraph 0043).

10. As per claim(s) 7 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-6 above and furthermore discloses the fulfilled request is credited to an account maintained for the provider in the database without association to the user making the request, (See Patel, Paragraph 0034).

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11. As per claim(s) 8 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-7 above and furthermore discloses the database comprises an account for the user in which the user can purchase rights to view the content without association to the specific content that will be viewed or otherwise observed, (See Patel, Paragraph 0042-0043).

12. As per claim(s) 9 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-8 above and furthermore discloses the database stores a password which the user must provide before the user can access the content, (See Patel, Paragraph 0041-0042).

13. As per claim(s) 10 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-9 above and furthermore discloses the database stores, in association with the password, a preset amount of time for which the user is permitted to access the content using the password (i.e., expiration date), (See Patel, Paragraph 0041-0043).

14. As per claim(s) 11 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-10 above and furthermore discloses the database stores, in association with the password, a preset amount of the content that the user is permitted to access using the password, (See Patel, Paragraph 0033-0034).

15. As per claim(s) 12 Patel-Lanzy teaches the claimed invention as described in claim(s) 1-11 above and furthermore discloses the database stores, in association with the password only information preset independently of the user, (See Patel, Paragraph 0036-0037).

16. *Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel-Lanzy in view of Toader et al. (US Patent No. 5,806,043 and Toader hereinafter).*

17. As per claim 5 Patel-Lanzy discloses the claimed invention as described above.

However, Patel-Lanzy does not explicitly teach the server measures an amount of time the user spends viewing the content and enters the amount of time into the database.

Toader teaches the server measures an amount of time the user spends viewing the content and enters the amount of time into the database (Toader, See Column 5 Lines 1-30).

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Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Patel-Lanzy with the teachings of Toader to include a server measuring an amount of time the user spends viewing the content and enters the amount of time into the database with the motivation to provide for saving costs for the vendor... wherein the use of the PIN numbers and associated limited time help authorizations limits the cost exposure of the sponsor/vendors in providing help (i.e., service). Furthermore, the convenient ways in which the customer can refresh his help authorization can provide enhanced revenue possibilities for the sponsor/vendors (See Toader Column 6 Lines 40-49).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to all pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Applicant argued in substance that the prior art of record failed to teach a system wherein communication between a user and a provider traversed through a server which provides anonymous access capabilities. The new grounds of rejection teaches this feature.

Conclusion

18. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
- e. Prasad et al. (US Patent No. 6,539,381) discloses system and method for synchronizing database information;
 - f. Campana et al. (US Patent No. 6,529,886) discloses authentication method for an access and/or payment control system; and
 - g. Savage et al. (US Patent No. 6,442,687) discloses system and method for secure and anonymous communications.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul H. Kang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3882. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 hour flex. First Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


PAUL H. KANG
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER